

REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully requests further examination and consideration in view of the arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1-42 were previously pending in this application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1-42 have been rejected. By the above amendment, Claims 1, 9, 11, and 14-21 have been amended, and Claims 43-48 have been added. Accordingly, Claims 1-48 are currently pending.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C § 102

Within the Office Action, Claims 9-11 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,084,949 to Yun (hereinafter “Yun”). The Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

Yun discloses a telephone system with automatic dialing using infrared transmission from an electronic pocketbook. The dialing method includes receiving an infrared signal containing a telephone number and automatically dialing the phone number. The data is transmitted from the electronic pocketbook to the telephone system when the telephone handset is in an off-hook state. Because the communication device must be in the off-hook position before data is able to be received, the transfer of data to the communication device is initiated by the communication device, not the electronic pocketbook. Yun does not teach triggering a dial-tone at the communication device. Yun teaches that the control unit and the dial unit are included within the telephone system. Yun does not teach a dialing device that is external to the communication device.

In contrast to the teachings of Yun, the method and apparatus for automatically dialing enables an electronic device to quickly and accurately transmit stored telephone numbers directly to an integrated telephone or other communication device containing a dialing device. The electronic device transmits data and instructions to the telephone, wherein a dial tone is triggered and the telephone automatically stores and dials the telephone number. In an alternative embodiment, the electronic device transmits stored telephone numbers to an external dialing device, wherein the external dialing device transmits the information to a compatible telephone or other communication device, triggers a dial-tone, and instructs the telephone to automatically dial the transmitted telephone numbers. The external dialing device is linked to both the electronic device and a communication device and is capable of automatically transmitting, receiving, storing, and dialing telephone numbers transmitted from the electronic device. As

described above, Yun does not teach triggering a dial-tone at the communication device. As also described above, Yun does not teach a dialing device that is external to the communication device.

The independent Claim 9 is directed to a method of dialing a telephone number. The method of Claim 9 comprises transmitting data from an electronic device to a dialing device, wherein the data includes the telephone number, transmitting the data from the dialing device to a communication device, triggering a dial-tone at the communication device and automatically dialing the telephone number at the communication device. As described above, Yun does not teach triggering a dial-tone at the communication device. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 9 is allowable over the teachings of Yun.

Claim 10 is dependent upon the independent Claim 9. As discussed above, the independent Claim 9 is allowable over the teachings of Yun. Accordingly, Claim 10 is also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 11 is directed to a system for dialing a telephone number. The system of Claim 11 comprises an electronic device for transmitting data including the telephone number, a dialing device capable of reception and transmission of data, and a communication device coupled to the dialing device for reception of the data transmitted from the dialing device, wherein a dial-tone is triggered at the communication device after reception of the data. As described above, Yun does not teach triggering a dial-tone at the communication device. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 11 is allowable over the teachings of Yun.

Claim 13 is dependent upon the independent Claim 11. As discussed above, the independent Claim 11 is allowable over the teachings of Yun. Accordingly, Claim 13 is also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Within the Office Action, Claim 12 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yun in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,408,067 to Robinson (hereinafter “Robinson”). The Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

Claim 12 is dependent upon the independent Claim 11. As discussed above, the independent Claim 11 is allowable over the teachings of Yun. Accordingly, Claim 12 is also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claims 1, 2 and 4-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,961,600 to Ono et al. (hereinafter “Ono”), in view of Yun. The Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

Ono discloses a method and data transfer control unit for controlling a data transfer between a calling device and a called device. Ono does not teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device.

As described above, Yun discloses a device method where the data is transmitted from the electronic pocketbook to the telephone system when the telephone handset is in an off-hook state. Therefore, the transfer of data must be initiated by the user through the communication device. As also described above, Yun does not teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device. Accordingly, neither Ono, Yun nor their combination teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device.

In contrast to the teachings of Ono, Yun and their combination, the method and apparatus for automatically dialing enables an electronic device to quickly and accurately transmit stored telephone numbers directly to an integrated telephone or other communication device containing a dialing device. The electronic device transmits data and instructions to the telephone, wherein a dial tone is triggered and the telephone automatically stores and dials the telephone number. In an alternative embodiment, the electronic device transmits stored telephone numbers to an external dialing device, wherein the external dialing device transmits the information to a compatible telephone or other communication device, triggers a dial-tone, and instructs the telephone to automatically dial the transmitted telephone numbers. The external dialing device is linked to both the electronic device and a communication device and is capable of automatically transmitting, receiving, storing, and dialing telephone numbers transmitted from the electronic device. As described above, neither Ono, Yun nor their combination teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device.

The independent Claim 1 is directed to a method of dialing a telephone number. The method of Claim 1 comprises transmitting data from an electronic device to a communication device, wherein the data includes the telephone number, triggering a dial-tone at the communication device and automatically dialing the telephone number by a dialing device. As described above, neither Ono, Yun nor their combination teach triggering a dial-tone at the communication device. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Ono, Yun and their combination.

Claims 2 and 4-8 are dependent upon the independent Claim 1. As discussed above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Ono, Yun and their combination. Accordingly, Claims 2 and 4-8 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ono in view of Yun and further in view of Robinson. The Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

Claim 3 is dependent upon the independent Claim 1. As discussed above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Ono, Yun and their combination. Accordingly, Claim 3 is also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claims 14-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ono in view of view of U.S. Patent No. 6,208,840 to Norimatsu (hereinafter “Norimatsu”). The Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

As stated above, Ono teaches a method and data transfer control unit for controlling a data transfer between a calling device and a called device. As also described above, Ono does not teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device.

Norimatsu teaches a handy phone having an infrared communication capability and allowing the user of the phone to see whether or not infrared communication is possible. The user is able to see if corrections to the distance or the angle between the receiving and transmitting devices are necessary to complete a successful transmission. The display of the correction information is located on the handy phone. However, Norimatsu does not teach that the display is located on the apparatus to be communicated with. Norimatsu also does not teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device. As also described above, Ono does not teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device. Accordingly, neither Ono, Norimatsu nor their combination teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device.

The independent Claim 14 is directed to an electronic device for automatically dialing a telephone number via a communication device. The electronic device of Claim 14 comprises a data communications circuit, a verification circuit, a notification circuit and a user interface. The data communications circuit transfers data including the telephone number to the communication device and triggers a dial-tone at the communication device and further receives data from an external source. As described above, neither Ono, Norimatsu nor their combination teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 14 is allowable over the teachings of Ono, Norimatsu and their combination.

Claims 15-20 are dependent upon the independent Claim 14. As discussed above, the independent Claim 14 is allowable over the teachings of Ono, Norimatsu and their combination. Accordingly, Claims 15-20 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claims 21-33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yun in view of Ono. The Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

As stated above, neither Yun, Ono nor their combination teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device.

The independent Claim 21 is directed to a communication device. The communication device of Claim 21 comprises a microprocessor, a dialing device, a data receiving circuit, and a first data transmitting circuit. The microprocessor is configured to execute programmed instructions. The dialing device is coupled to the microprocessor to trigger a dial-tone and automatically dial a telephone number. As described above, neither Yun, Ono nor their combination teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 21 is allowable over the teachings of Yun, Ono and their combination.

Claims 22-33 are dependent upon the independent Claim 21. As discussed above, the independent Claim 21 is allowable over the teachings of Yun, Ono and their combination. Accordingly, Claims 22-33 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claims 34-42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yun in view of Ono and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,379,319 to Satoh et al. (hereinafter “Satoh”). The Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

Satoh teaches a telephone apparatus having an ability to sense a human body approaching. The Satoh telephone senses infrared rays from a human body to produce an approach signal in response to which a controller activates a lamp to illuminate a device on the telephone to help facilitate the use of the telephone in darkness. A further aspect of Satoh is the triggering of an automatic dialing function of the telephone if the sensor operation is continued longer than a predetermined time. The telephone numbers to be automatically dialed are stored in the telephone apparatus. However, Satoh does not teach a dialing device with the ability to interpret the information contained in the infrared signal to perform an intended function. Satoh also does not teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device. Accordingly, neither Yun, Ono, Satoh nor their combination teach triggering a dial-tone at a communication device.

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The independent Claim 34 is directed to a dialing device. The dialing device of Claim 34 comprises a microprocessor, a data receiving circuit, a dialing mechanism, and a data transmitting circuit. The microprocessor is configured to execute programmed instructions. The data receiving circuit receives data from a communication device. The dialing mechanism simulates unique touch-pad dial-tones and triggers a dial-tone at the communication device. The data transmitting circuit transmits data, and status and error messages to the communication device. As described above, neither Yun, Ono, Satoh nor their combination teach triggering a dial-tone at the communication device. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 34 is allowable over the teachings of Yun, Ono, Satoh and their combination.

Claims 35-42 are dependent upon the independent Claim 34. As discussed above, the independent Claim 34 is allowable over the teachings of Yun, Ono, Satoh and their combination. Accordingly, Claims 35-42 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim, and are now in condition for allowance.

For the reasons given above, Applicant respectfully submits that the Claims 1-48 are in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: August 11, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR§ 1.8(a))

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